

TJIC Alert

Thomas Jefferson Information Center • U. S. Embassy • 1201 Roxas Boulevard, Manila
Tel.: 301-2470 • Fax: 301-2469 • E-mail: mnl tjic@state.gov
U.S. Embassy Website: <http://philippines.usembassy.gov/>

September 2010

The *TJIC Alert* is a publication of the Thomas Jefferson Information Center, which is designed to provide you with current information about issues, debates, and commentaries in the United States. It is intended for individuals and is non-transferable.

Internet users may access the full text of some titles directly from the Internet. The Internet address (URL) of the websites is indicated in the citation when available.

For inquiries please contact us at the address or phone number above and ask for "Alert Service."

The TJIC is open Mondays through Fridays, except on American and Philippine holidays, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. by appointment only.

LABOR

1. Labor Day by the Numbers

Anna Turner

Economic Policy Institute

Full Text: <http://bit.ly/aq5fB4>

3 p.

September 3, 2010

The report presents key data on the state of the labor market in 2010.
[Note: contains copyrighted material].

2. The State of the American Worker 2010: Attitudes about Work in America

Karlyn Bowman

American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research

Full Text: <http://bit.ly/bzexXW>

53 p.

August 31, 2010

The State of the American Worker 2010 reviews attitudes about jobs and work.
[Note: contains copyrighted material].

3. Federal Employees: Pay and Pension Increases Since 1969

Patrick Purcell

Congressional Research Service

Full Text: http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/94-971_20100120.pdf

13 p.

January 20, 2010

Pay increases for current federal employees and cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) for retired federal employees often differ because they are based on changes in different economic variables. Congress has linked COLAs for Social Security and federal retirement benefits to the rate of increase in the prices of goods and services to protect retirement income from losing purchasing power through the effects of inflation. In general, wage increases reflect both improvements in the productivity of labor and increases in the general level of prices in the economy.

4. Presidential Proclamation – National Equal Pay Day

The White House

April 20, 2010

Full Text: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/presidential-proclamation-national-equal-pay-day>

“Throughout our Nation's history, extraordinary women have broken barriers to achieve their dreams and blazed trails so their daughters would not face similar obstacles. Despite decades of progress, pay inequity still hinders women and their families across our country. National Equal Pay Day symbolizes the day when an average American woman's earnings finally match what an average American man earned in the past year. Today, we renew our commitment to end wage discrimination and celebrate the strength and vibrancy women add to our economy.” – President Obama.

5. Separate And Not Equal? Gender Segregation in the Labor Market and the Gender Wage Gap

Institute for Women's Policy Research

September 2010

16 p.

Full Text: <http://bit.ly/9Svwsy>

Occupational gender segregation is a strong feature of the US labor market. While some occupations have become increasingly integrated over time, others remain highly dominated by either men or women. The analysis of trends in overall gender segregation shows that, after a considerable move towards more integrated occupations in the 1970s and 1980s, progress has completely stalled since the mid 1990s.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

6. Characteristics of Minimum Wage Workers: 2009

U.S. Department of Labor

March 2010

14 p.

Full Text: <http://www.bls.gov/cps/minwage2009.pdf>

In 2009, 72.6 million American workers age 16 and over were paid at hourly rates, representing 58.3 percent of all wage and salary workers. On July 24, 2009, the Federal minimum wage increased to \$7.25 per hour from \$6.55 per hour. Data in the report reflect the average number of workers earning the prevailing Federal minimum wage or less for the calendar year 2009, those who earned \$6.55 or less from January 2009 through July 2009 and those who earned \$7.25 or less from August 2009 through the end of the year. Among those paid by the hour, 980,000 earned exactly the prevailing Federal minimum wage in 2009. Nearly 2.6 million had wages below the minimum.

7. Where the Jobs Are: A First Look at Private Industry Job Growth and Wages In 2010

National Employment Law Project

August 27, 2010

16 p.

Full Text: <http://bit.ly/alkj7Y>

The data brief, using a unique synthesis of Bureau of Labor Statistics data, tracks private industry employment and wages from December 2007, the start of the recession, through July 2010, the most recent month of data available.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

8. Expanding Access to Paid Sick Leave: the Impact of the Healthy Families Act on America's Workers

Joint Economic Committee

March 10, 2010

Full Text: http://jec.senate.gov/index.cfm?FuseAction=Press.PressReleases&ContentRecord_id=49baa5a6-5056-8059-7686-a4a43efff2d9&Region_id=&Issue_id=

The report estimates the impact of the *Healthy Families Act* (S. 1152, introduced by Senator Chris Dodd, and H.R. 2460, introduced by Representative Rosa DeLauro), on access to paid sick leave.

9. Cities, Skills and Wages

Martin Prosperity Institute

April 2010

30 p.

Full Text:

<http://research.martinprosperity.org/papers/Florida%20Mellander%20Stolarick%20Ross%20%282010%29%20Cities%20Skills%20and%20Wages.pdf>

The research examines the effects of skills in cities on regional wages. In place of the extant literature's focus on human capital or knowledge-based or creative occupations, it focuses its analysis on actual skills. The research also uses cluster analysis to identify three broad skill types, analytical, social intelligence and physical skills from 87 occupational skills. Then regression analysis is conducted to quantify how each skill contributes to regional prosperity and how they are related to regional size, using data from 1999 and 2008.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

10. International Comparisons of Hourly Compensation Costs in Manufacturing 2008

U.S. Department of Labor
Full Text: <http://bit.ly/bDUcJr>

August 26, 2010 25 p.

The trade-weighted average of hourly compensation costs in U.S. dollars for all employees in manufacturing among 32 foreign economies was 85 percent of the U.S. level in 2008, increasing from 82 percent in 2007, according to the data. Compensation costs relative to the United States rose or remained unchanged in 28 of the 32 foreign economies covered in 2008. The data contains data for all employees and production workers.

11. Persons with A Disability: Labor Force Characteristics – 2009

U.S. Department of Labor
Full Text: <http://bit.ly/94yIE1>

August 25, 2010

10 p.

The proportion of the population employed in 2009—the employment-population ratio—was 19.2 percent among those with a disability, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The employment-population ratio for persons without a disability was 64.5 percent. The unemployment rate of persons with a disability was 14.5 percent, higher than the rate for those with no disability, which was 9.0 percent.

12. Bridge to Immigration or Cheap Temporary Labor?

Ron Hira
Economic Policy Institute
Full Text: http://epi.3cdn.net/60b75ba377ebc081b5_hem6b5qjc.pdf

17 p.

February 17, 2010

American employers often claim they use the H-1B and other skilled guest worker visa programs to attract talented foreign workers and help them remain permanently in the U.S. But new evidence shows these programs are mainly a means to help outsource U.S. jobs or recruit cheap temporary labor.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

13. Unions and Upward Mobility for Immigrant Workers

John Schmitt
Center for Economic and Policy Research
Full Text: <http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/unions-immigrants-2010-03.pdf>

16 p.

March 2010

The report reviews the characteristics of the immigrant workforce and analyzes the impact of unionization on the pay and benefits of immigrant workers. According to the most recent available data, immigrant workers are now over 15 percent of the workforce and almost 13 percent of unionized workers. Even after controlling for systematic differences between union and non-union workers, union representation substantially improves the pay and benefits received by immigrants.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

14. Foreign-Born Workers: Labor Force Characteristics – 2009

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor
Full Text: <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/forbrn.pdf>

March 19, 2010

14 p.

The share of the U.S. labor force composed of the foreign born was little changed in 2009, and their unemployment rate rose from 5.8 to 9.7 percent, according to the report. The jobless rate of the native born increased from 5.8 percent in 2008 to 9.2 percent in 2009. It also compares the labor force characteristics of the foreign born with those of their native-born counterparts.

15. Charting International Labor Comparisons

Bureau of Labor Statistics
Full Text: <http://www.bls.gov/fls/chartbook/chartbook2010.pdf>

April 2010

63 p.

The study showcases data from all areas of the International Labor Comparisons program and other sources. It explores how key labor market and other national economic measurements compare across countries.

16. Labour Markets and the Crisis

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

April 16, 2010

30 p.

Full Text: [http://www.oecd.org/olis/2010doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT0000290A/\\$FILE/JT03281945.PDF](http://www.oecd.org/olis/2010doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT0000290A/$FILE/JT03281945.PDF)

The paper takes stock of recent labor market developments, highlights some of the key uncertainties, and discusses the policy options available to damp any further, structural deterioration in labor markets and facilitate an eventual, sustained, job-rich recovery.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

17. Exports Support American Jobs

U.S. Department of Commerce

April 15, 2010

14 p.

Full Text: <http://www.trade.gov/publications/pdfs/exports-support-american-jobs.pdf>

The report confirms the importance of exports to the U.S. economy and the increasingly globalized marketplace. According to the report, in 2008, exports accounted for a record 12.7 percent of U.S. gross domestic product (GDP), and during a period of relatively flat job growth across the economy, supported a record number of jobs, more than 10 million. Additionally, the report links the success in supporting American manufacturing with a successful export policy.

18. Labor Shortage

Katie Paul

Newsweek

Feb. 1, 2010

Currently available online at <http://www.newsweek.com/id/232865>

In Haiti, children are regularly loaned to other households to work as domestic servants in exchange for food, housing and an education, but many treated like slaves. According to this article, some 225,000 Haitian children are living as indentured servants -- known as "restaveks" -- and their conditions may become worse in the aftermath of the Jan. 12 earthquake. "For families struggling in the wake of a catastrophe, restavek kids are the first to go," said Glenn Smucker, an anthropologist who specializes in development work in Haiti. Thousands of Haitians were killed in hurricanes and floods in 2004 and 2008, and each time, he said, the restaveks were most at risk to be turned out on the streets or trafficked. "Whenever these things happen, restavek children always fare worse. Their parents are not there to watch out for them, so they're far more vulnerable than the rest of the population," Smucker said. Before the earthquake, restaveks resided in up to 22 percent of Haitian homes, according to a study funded by USAID and published by the Pan American Development Foundation in December. It remains to be seen if things will get better or worse for these children. Many restaveks have been abandoned by their host families; at the same time some families who find themselves poorer than ever since the earthquake may feel extra pressure to lend out their children. On the other hand, with more families leaving Port-au-Prince for the countryside, it is possible that rural families may be less inclined to give up their children.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

19. Oil and Gas Industry: Fatal and Nonfatal Occupational Injuries

Bureau of Labor Statistics

April 23, 2010

7 p.

Full Text: <http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshwc/osh/os/osar0013.pdf>

Oil and gas industries are frequently in the news. Much of the time this news is related to changes in prices of oil and gas, which affect most consumers in one way or another. Another less frequent subject of media attention is when disasters strike, as in the offshore oil drilling platform explosion and fire on April 20, 2010. The overall rate of injuries and illnesses with days away from work due to fires and explosions in all industries was 0.2 per 10,000 full-time workers in 2008, composed of 2,320 cases with days away from work. There were 174 fatal injuries due to fires and explosions in 2008, 18 of which were in the oil and gas industry.

20. Coal Mining: Injuries, Illnesses, and Fatalities

Bureau of Labor Statistics

April 2010

9 p.

Full Text: <http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshwc/osh/os/osar0012.pdf>

Coal mining is a relatively dangerous industry. Employees in coal mining are more likely to be killed or to incur a non-fatal injury or illness, and their injuries are more likely to be severe than workers in private industry as a whole, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

21. Turning Green Jobs to Gold, Safely

U.S. Department of Labor

April 22, 2010

10 p.

Full Text: http://www.dol.gov/dol/green/earthday_reportA.pdf

The U.S. Department of Labor is turning green jobs into golden opportunities safely by working with its community, labor and industry partners to prepare the workforce for high growth fields while building a greener planet. The report demonstrates the programs being supported to promote green job growth.

22. 'Upsetting the Natural Order': Managing Employees Old Enough To Be Your Parents

Knowledge at Wharton

September 1, 2010

4 p.

Full Text: <http://bit.ly/dselmq>

If one looks at the research on older workers, those who are at or close to retirement age, one finds what Peter Cappelli, director of Wharton's Center for Human Resources, calls "an incredible amount of discrimination, bigger even than discrimination against race or gender." Older people, he says, often find it difficult to get a job, partly because relatively young supervisors are reluctant to hire and then manage employees who are decades older, even though these employees are the type of worker many employers say they want.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

EMPLOYMENT

23. Policies For Increasing Economic Growth And Employment In 2010 And 2011

Susan Yang

Congressional Budget Office

34 p.

January 2010

Full Text: <http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/108xx/doc10803/01-14-Employment.pdf>

The number of jobs in the United States has declined almost every month since December 2007. Nearly all professional forecasters believe that the economy has begun to recover from the recent recession, but many also predict that the pace of the recovery will be slow and that unemployment will remain high for several years.

24. Downcast Unemployment Forecast: Targeted Job Creation Policies Necessary to Offset Grim 2010 Projections

Kai Filion

Economic Policy Institute

13 p.

January 14, 2010

Full Text: http://epi.3cdn.net/d9904b716d3cf62538_psm6bnec9.pdf

The nation's 10% unemployment rate does not capture the severity of the crisis for minority workers in many regions of the country. The Issue brief provides a breakdown of the unemployment projections into 2010 for various demographic groups in every state.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

25. Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act

Government Printing Office

March 1, 2010

112 p.

Full Text: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-111hr2847EAS2/pdf/BILLS-111hr2847EAS2.pdf>

The U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) has made available the U.S. Senate's jobs bill, Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act, in electronic form. The authentic, electronic version is available on GPO's Federal Digital System (FDsys), named by Government Computer News as one of the Government's best Web sites. GPO authenticated the document by digital signature. This signature assures the public that the document has not been changed or altered. A digital signature, viewed through the GPO Seal of Authenticity, verifies the document's integrity and authenticity.

26. Estimating the Number of Jobs Created or Saved

Michael Griffith

Education Commission of the States

Full Text: <http://www.ecs.org/clearinghouse/85/25/8525.pdf>

7 p.

April 15, 2010

On April 14, a bill was introduced in the U.S. Senate that would create an "education jobs fund" to provide \$23 billion to states to create or save education positions in both K-12 public schools and public institutes of higher education.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

27. The Polarization of Job Opportunities in the U.S. Labor Market

David Autor

Center for American Progress

Full Text: http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/04/pdf/job_polarization.pdf

48 p.

April 30, 2010

The paper analyzes the state of the U.S. labor market over the past three decades to inform policymaking on two fronts. The first is to rigorously document and place in historical and international context the trajectory of the U.S. labor market, focusing on the evolving earnings, employment rates, and labor market opportunities for workers with low, moderate, and high levels of education. The second is to illuminate the key forces shaping this trajectory. The report explores the causes and consequences of these trends in U.S. employment patterns in detail.

28. Gainful Employment Brings More Gainful Education

Louis Soares

Center for American Progress

August 9, 2010

Full Text: <http://bit.ly/cn7P4A>

Gainful employment rule pushes the Education Department into a new role, using network orchestration to improve quality and value in higher education, writes Louis Soares.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

29. How a New Jobless Era Will Transform America

Don Peck

Atlantic Monthly

March 2010

Currently available online at <http://www.theatlantic.com/doc/201003/jobless-america-future>

The author notes that the official unemployment figures in the U.S. understate the magnitude of the jobs crisis; the percentage of unemployed and underemployed have approached the highest figure since the 1930s. Despite official pronouncements that the recession is over, a prolonged era of high joblessness is just beginning. Peck writes that it will have a profound effect on the prospects, character and behavior patterns of a generation of young people who are just now trying to enter the workforce. For the first time in U.S. history, the majority of the jobs in the country will be held by women, as the shrinking of the traditional manufacturing industries and trades falls disproportionately on men. Peck fears that the longer the jobless period lasts, the greater the negative effect it will have on the stability of households and communities around the country.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

30. More Transit = More Jobs: The Impact of Increasing Funding For Public Transit

Transportation Equity Network

September 2, 2010

31 p.

Full Text: <http://bit.ly/c0srGp>

The report reveals that investment in public transit can create hundreds of thousands more jobs than highway projects. It examines official project lists from 20 federally authorized Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and concludes that "if [they] shifted 50 percent of their highway funds to transit, they would generate an additional 184,801 jobs over a five-year period without spending any more money."

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

31. Most 'Re-Employed' Workers Say They're Overqualified For Their New Job

Pew Research Center

September 2, 2010

10 p.

Full Text: <http://bit.ly/aYQA4d>

Workers who suffered a spell of unemployment during Great Recession are, on average, less satisfied with their new jobs than workers who didn't. They are more likely to consider themselves over-qualified for their current

position. And six-in-ten say they changed careers or seriously thought about it while they were unemployed, according to the survey.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

32. Employment Situation of Veterans - 2009

U.S. Department of Labor

March 12, 2010

19 p.

Full Text: <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/vet.pdf>

The unemployment rate for veterans who served in the military since September 2001—a group referred to as Gulf War-era II veterans—was 10.2 percent in 2009, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The jobless rate for veterans of all eras combined was 8.1 percent. About 21 percent of Gulf War-era II veterans reported having a service-connected disability in August 2009, compared with about 13 percent of all veterans.

33. The Adult Recession

David Rosnick

4 p.

Center for Economic and Policy Research

July 2010

Full Text: <http://bit.ly/9pRPmf>

Since the Great Depression, the worst episode of unemployment came in the second half of 1982 and the first half of 1983. Over that time, the unemployment rate stayed above ten percent from September through June, reaching 10.8 percent of the labor force in November and December of 1982. A naïve examination of the raw unemployment rates would suggest that the downturn of the early 1980s resulted in a labor market even weaker than what we have experienced as a result of the collapse of the housing bubble. However, the demographics of the labor force have changed significantly over the last quarter century. After adjusting for the aging of the population since the early 1980s, the current labor-market downturn has resulted in both a higher unemployment rate and a longer period when the rate of unemployment remained over 10 percent.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

34. Unemployment Statistics on Older Americans

Urban Institute

February 2010

11 p.

Full Text: http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411904_unemploymentstatistics.pdf

The recession has increased joblessness among older Americans. The graphs and tables report unemployment rates and how they have varied by age, sex, race, and education since 2007.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

35. Record Unemployment among Older Workers Does Not Keep Them Out Of the Job Market

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

March 2010

3 p.

Full Text: <http://www.bls.gov/opub/ils/pdf/opbils81.pdf>

The unemployment rate for persons aged 55 years and older has increased sharply since the beginning of the recession in December 2007. The jobless rate among older workers was 7.1 percent, seasonally adjusted, in February 2010, just shy of the record-high level of 7.2 percent in December 2009. At the same time, the labor force participation rate, the proportion of the population that is either employed or looking for work, for this group rose during much of the recession, before leveling off in recent months.

36. Lost Income, Lost Friends – And Loss of Self-Respect: The Impact of Long-Term Unemployment

Pew Research Center

July 22, 2010

20 p.

Full Text: <http://bit.ly/9EOA40>

The survey finds the long-term unemployed are more likely than the short-term unemployed not only to have lost income, but also to have lost contact with close friends, suffered strains in family relations and lost self-respect and confidence in their long-term career prospects.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

37. New Employment Statistics from the 2008 Business R&D and Innovation Survey

Francisco Moris and Nimala Kannankutty
National Science Foundation
Full Text: <http://bit.ly/bYk35p>

6 p.
July 2010

Companies located in the United States that performed or funded research and development domestically or overseas employed an estimated 27.1 million workers worldwide in 2008. R&D employees, employees who perform or directly support R&D activities, accounted for 1.9 million, or 7.1%, of this worldwide employment. The domestic employment of these companies totaled 18.5 million workers, including 1.5 million domestic R&D employees. Thus, domestic R&D employment accounted for 7.9% of companies' total domestic employment and for 77% of their worldwide R&D employment. In 2008 companies reported \$346 billion of company-performed R&D worldwide; 82% of this activity was performed in the United States.

38. Opening Doors: How to Make the Workforce Investment Act Work for Women

Liz Weiss
Center for American Progress
Full Text: <http://bit.ly/b3StVm>

33 p.
July 1, 2010

A rack of job-seeking materials is seen at a career center. Women are particularly short-changed by the WIA system, which helps U.S. workers find jobs and get training. A number of reforms to the system could help it better serve women, according to the study.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

39. Why Do So Many Women End Up In Bad Jobs?: A Cross-Country Assessment

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
Full Text: <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/61/37/44524668.pdf>

February 1, 2010 50 p.

There is an increasing concern in the development community about the increase in the feminization of bad jobs of many developing countries. Indeed, recent analysis shows a growing proportion of women are in jobs with poor working conditions and low pay. But what is driving this phenomenon?

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

RETIREMENT

40. Why Did Some Employers Suspend Their 401(K) Match?

Alicia H. Munnell and Laura Quinby
Center for Retirement Research at Boston College
Full Text: http://crr.bc.edu/images/stories/Briefs/ib_10-2.pdf

12 p.
February 2010

The employer match of employee contributions is an important characteristic of 401(k) plans. The match was designed to encourage participation and contributions – particularly by lower-paid employees. However, at many companies, the employer match became a casualty of the financial collapse and ensuing recession. While several large companies have restored their match, it is still important to understand what causes such a response, according to the authors.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

41. The Trillion Dollar Gap: Underfunded State Retirement Systems and the Roads to Reform

Pew Center on the States
Full Text: http://downloads.pewcenteronthestates.org/The_Trillion_Dollar_Gap_final.pdf

February 2010 66 p.

There was a \$1 trillion gap at the end of fiscal year 2008 between the \$2.35 trillion states had set aside to pay for employees' retirement benefits and the \$3.35 trillion price tag of those promises, according to the report. The shortfall, which will have to be paid over the next 30 years by state and local governments, amounts to more than \$8,800 for every household in the United States. The figures detailed in Pew's report, include pension, health care and other non-pension benefits promised to both current and future retirees in states' and participating localities' public sector retirement systems.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

42. The 2010 Retirement Confidence Survey: Confidence Stabilizing, But Preparations Continue To Erode

Employee Benefits Research Institute

March 2010

44 p.

Full Text: http://www.ebri.org/pdf/briefspdf/EBRI_IB_03-2010_No340_RCS.pdf

The study finds that the record-low confidence levels measured during the past two years of economic decline appear to have bottomed out. The percentage of workers very confident about having enough money for a comfortable retirement has stabilized at 16 percent, which is statistically equivalent to the 20-year low of 13 percent measured in 2009 (Fig. 1, pg. 7). Retiree confidence about having a financially secure retirement has also stabilized, with 19 percent saying now they are very confident.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

43. The Impact of Automatic Enrollment in 401(K) Plans On Future Retirement Accumulations: A Simulation Study Based On Plan Design Modifications of Large Plan Sponsors

Jack VanDerhei

24 p.

Employee Benefit Research Institute

April 2010

Full Text: http://www.ebri.org/pdf/briefspdf/EBRI_IB_04-2010_No341_Auto-Enrl.pdf

The research finds that auto-enrollment of participants in 401(k) plans is likely to be most beneficial to young and low-income workers, although high-income workers are likely to benefit from it as well. It also confirms earlier results that large employers adopting auto-enrollment have significantly increased the employer “match” to their workers’ own 401(k) contributions.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

44. The Funding of State and Local Pensions: 2009-2013

Center for Retirement Research at Boston College

April 2010

18 p.

Full Text: http://crr.bc.edu/images/stories/Briefs/slp_10.pdf

The financial crisis reduced the value of equities in state and local defined benefit pensions and hurt the funding status of these plans. The authors say that the impact will become evident only over time, however, because actuaries in the public sector tend to smooth both gains and losses, typically over a five-year period. The current and future funding status of state and local pensions is crucially important, as state and local governments are facing a perfect storm: the decline in funding has occurred just as the recession has cut into state and local tax revenues and increased the demand for government services.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

45. Talent Pressures and the Aging Workforce: Responsive Action Steps for the Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services Sector

The Sloan Center on Aging & Work

August 2010

51 p.

Full Text: <http://bit.ly/9oLtfy>

The professional, scientific, and technical services sector offers some of the best jobs available – high skilled, high paying, and relatively flexible – but these jobs are disappearing, creating an acute need for highly skilled workers, according to a new study by the Sloan Center on Aging & Work.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

46. Top Ten Reasons Not To Raise the Retirement Age

Ross Eisenbrey

2 p.

Economic Policy Institute

August 24, 2010

Full Text: <http://bit.ly/caNIIQ>

At a time when more Americans are living longer, raising the retirement age may seem like a good way to strengthen Social Security. Ross Eisenbrey explains why it is not.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

47. “Frozen” Defined-Benefit Plans

Bureau of Labor Statistics

April 2010

4 p.

Full Text: http://www.bls.gov/opub/perspectives/program_perspectives_vol2_issue3.pdf

During the current economic recession, as employers search for ways to reduce costs, the phrase “frozen retirement plans” is heard with greater frequency. Frozen plans are those that are closed to employees not

previously participating in the plan and/or place limits on future benefits for some or all active participants. The brief focuses on defined- benefit retirement plans that are frozen.

48. Pension Participation and Uncovered Workers

Nadia Karamcheva and Geoffrey Sanzenbacher
Center for Retirement Research at Boston College
Full Text: <http://bit.ly/cJot9f>

9 p.
August 2010

The brief explores the participation issue and estimates how many workers would participate if 401(k)-type coverage were extended to those who currently lack it. The first section summarizes trends in pension coverage. The second section describes the data and methodology used for estimating participation, while the third discusses the results. The final section concludes that, while offering convenient savings options to low-income workers should help improve their retirement security, fewer individuals may take advantage of the opportunity than policymakers hope.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

49. Pension Insurance Data Book 2009

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation
Full Text: <http://bit.ly/9AZTQg>

August 20, 2010

120 p.

The data book offers information on statistical trends related to defined benefit retirement plans in the private sector. The new edition features a detailed article on the smaller of the agency's two pension insurance programs, which provides financial assistance to insolvent multiemployer pension plans.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

REQUEST FORM
TJIC Alert Issue: September 2010

- *TJIC reserves the right to refuse a request if, in its judgment, fulfillment of the request would involve violation of U.S. Copyright Law. (Title 19, U.S. Code)*
- *Print copies of the reports, documents or articles with available Internet addresses will be provided on a case to case basis.*
- *The articles requested are mailed two days after receipt of request. Please contact us if you have not received the articles requested after a month.*
- *Please make corrections to the address label below, complete the information requested at the bottom, and sign and return this form by mail, fax or email to the address below.*

PRINTED NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

TEL: _____ FAX: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Please note that this service is intended solely for the recipient's use and is non-transferable.



Thomas Jefferson Information Center
Embassy of the United States of America
1201 Roxas Boulevard Manila, Philippines
Fax: (632) 301-2469 Tel: (632) 301-2470

TJIC Alert Service

To: